

6D

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	09/651,779	MOORE, SCOTT E	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Dung V Nguyen	3723	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment filed on 18 January 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 3,6,8,32,37,38,43-48,53,55,68,69,76-95,98-115 and 117-124.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 30 August 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
  1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)            |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date <u>9/24/04 &amp; 1/18/05</u> | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                               |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material  | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance   |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.   |

### **REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

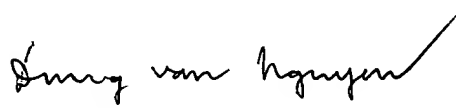
1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: prior art of record considered as a whole alone or in combination neither anticipates nor renders obvious, removing conductive material from a microelectronic substrate by passing a varying current through a first and second electrodes spaced apart from the conductor material and moving the microelectronic substrate or electrodes relative to the other while passing the current through the electrodes, in combination with the rest of the limitations in claims 3 and 37; prior art of record considered as a whole alone or in combination neither anticipates nor renders obvious, varying an amplitude and/or polarity of a current at a first frequency and superimposing on the first frequency and amplitude variation having a second frequency less than the first frequency, in combination with the rest of the limitations in claim 6; prior art of record considered as a whole alone or in combination neither anticipates nor renders obvious, positioning a second electrode pair proximate to a microelectronic substrate and applying a varying current to the second electrode pair to remove a second portion of conductive material from the microelectronic substrate, in combination with the rest of the limitations in claim 8; prior art of record considered as a whole alone or in combination neither anticipates nor renders obvious, disposing a dielectric material between a first and second electrodes and disposing a dielectric film between a planarizing surface and the electrodes, in combination with the rest of the limitations in claim 32; prior art of record considered as a whole alone or in combination neither anticipates nor renders obvious, removing conductive material from a microelectronic substrate by passing a first varying

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current through the first and second electrodes and passing a second varying current through a third and fourth electrodes, in combination with the rest of the limitations in claim 43; prior art of record considered as a whole alone or in combination neither anticipates nor renders obvious, a current source to vary an amplitude of a current at a first frequency and including an amplitude modulator to superimpose on the first frequency an amplitude and/or polarity variation having a second frequency less than the first frequency, in combination with the rest of the limitations in claims 53, 68 and 76; prior art of record considered as a whole alone or in combination neither anticipates nor renders obvious, a fourth electrode spaced apart from a third electrode and a microelectronic substrate and being coupleable to a source of a varying current, in combination with the rest of the limitations in claims 55 and 69; prior art of record considered as a whole alone or in combination neither anticipates nor renders obvious, a second electrode spaced apart from a first electrode and a support member, a current path passing through the first, second electrodes and the substrate when the substrate is supported by the support member, in combination with the rest of the limitations in claims 94, 95, 98 and 99; prior art of record considered as a whole alone or in combination neither anticipates nor renders obvious, , in combination with the rest of the limitations in claim ; prior art of record considered as a whole alone or in combination neither anticipates nor renders obvious, an electrolyte flow restrictor positioned between a support member and a conductive electrode to restrict a flow of an electrolyte toward first and second electrodes, in combination with the rest of the limitations in claim 102.

2. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."
3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dung V Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-4490. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 6:30-3:00.
4. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph J Hail can be reached on 571-272-4485. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.
5. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

DVN  
February 27, 2005

  
**DUNG VAN NGUYEN**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**